

City of Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency – Answers to Questions Received for Microenterprise Assistance Program RFP September 2020.

Question: How much is BURA allocating in funds for this program?

Answer: *Total dollar amount of the fund is proposed to be approximately \$750,000.*

Question: What are the number of grants? and dollar size for the grant?

Answer: *Although program details are not finalized and will be part of the discussion with awardee, grants are proposed to be sized up to \$5,000 per awardee.*

If with an up to \$5,000 grant and if there is \$750,000 total funding, then approximately 150 businesses could be assisted. Given that the top-end of an award may be \$5,000, BURA would like to endeavor to assist at least 200 businesses.

Question: What is the fee structure? On what basis?

Answer: *BURA is open to proposals on fee structure including number of businesses assisted and other methods commonly used to develop fee structures.*

Question: What time frame is BURA looking at for disbursement of grants?

Answer: *BURA would like to start disbursement of grant by November 1, 2020.*

Question: Is the SBDC compensation part of this provision or is it separate to be budgeted?

Answer: *The respondent will not be responsible for SBDC compensation. It is anticipated that SBDC will perform its duties as part of its general mission to assist small businesses in the community.*

Question: Does BURA have any eligibility preferences for microbusiness grant awardees – either geographic or M/WBE.

Answer: *BURA is interested in exploring program qualification options as part of this engagement with successful awardee in order to enhance impact and reach of the program. For example, qualification of businesses via geographic location as distressed and/or low-income designated areas to the extent possible, and most negatively impacted by coronavirus.*

Question: Are there any communications/ marketing requirements for the program? Or will it be managed by the City's communication's team?

Answer: *The successful awardee and BURA will work on a joint marketing program. Among other things BURA and/or City will provide marketing, communications, and/pr media relations work including graphics to promote the program.*